**HD** **Art exhibit at I.M. Pei tower turns heads.(PROPERTY MANAGEMENT)**

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**LP**

A new art exhibit with an original theme has been mounted in the I. M. Pei--designed office tower at 499 Park Avenue, owned by Hines, the international real estate firm. Entitled "Walpole's Leap: 8 Modern Garden perceptions", the exhibit features eight New York based contemporary artists. The exhibit is curated by

Judith Selkowitz and Rebecca Shea of Art Advisory Services Inc. of New York, NY, a firm that provides expert and comprehensive advice on the acquisition of artwork for the corporate market and for private collectors. It will run through September 12, 2006.

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The exhibit, which is the second in a series of four, features works by eight artists inspired by garden themes. It provides existing and prospective tenants as well as visitors a fresh, unexpected greeting as they pass through the building's entrance. Fine art in commercial and civic buildings is becoming an established trend, one that landlords and leasing agents are promoting as an important marketing amenity and leasing inducement.

The Walpole's Leap exhibit is curated under the tenets of the brilliant Horace Walpole, the 4th Earl of Orford (1717 - 1797) an original and forward thinking art historian, architect, letter writer, Member of Parliament, Novelist and Publisher. Walpole believed in progress, modernization and the importance of "leaping fences to see the world anew".

Horace Walpole broke conventions; encouraging originality. The 499 Park Avenue exhibit applies these tenets to the artists and artworks presented. The curators serendipitously discovered artworks that hinted of traditional, representational Gardens but found new inspiration in Walpole's ideas of modernism and naturalism. The images in the exhibition can evoke the presence of a garden wall between nature and culture like John Zinsser's Exact Measure painting Lynn Stern's Ghost Circle photographs and Charles Butterly's sculpture cut-outs.

Leaping off these walls one can imagine larger views of intellectualized landscapes as seen in the paintings of Lucio Pozzi and Michael Goldberg. The intimate interior world of gardens can be experienced in Jon Nathanson's expressionistic painting on paper, the photograph, Two Gardens by Abelardo Morell and Santi Moix's drawing. Walpole inspires us to continually leap our fences and see that all nature is a garden of inspiration.

Art Advisory Services Inc. will curate 2 more exhibitions in 2006 at 499 Park Ave with the Hines organization. Through their exhibition program, Hines actively contributes to the cultural community as an expression of ongoing commitment to excellence in the visual arts and architecture.

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